

The general public is joined at this free event by arts designers, art consultants, dealers, gallery owners, private collectors, and other artists. Open Studios has established an excellent reputation in the community. In the 10-year history, attendance has increased from about 20,000 studio visits to over 70,000. Its programs are implemented by an exceptional, dedicated staff with the sound stewardship of an innovative Board of Directors.

Open Studios has a mission of education. That mission has been expanded over the years to include not just educational opportunities in the studios during the two week event, but also community activities especially for children. Six years ago, Open Studios coordinated with the Director of Special Education of the Boulder Valley School District to provide art supplies and instruction to Halcyon School. With the success of the program at Halcyon, the educational program has been expanded to include six more Boulder Valley schools. There is no charge to the schools, and Open Studios pays artists for their time with a grant from the Boulder Arts Commission.

Throughout the decade, Open Studios has worked to bring art to the community in a myriad of different ways. Open Studios has assisted my office with the annual United States Congressional High School Art Competition for the past four years. In 2000, Open Studios brought William Ivey, the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, to speak to Colorado communities and artists about the direction of the national art movement. In 2001, Open Studios arranged an opportunity for citizens to create cards to thank the members of the New York City Police and Fire Departments for their work and their sacrifices on 9/11. And this past year, Open Studios engaged the Boulder community in painting America's largest paint-by-number, a 1000-square foot painting displayed on a building in downtown Boulder.

The arts enhance the quality of every aspect of our lives. Open Studios has become a vital part of the community and has added to the quality of life of the citizens of Colorado. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Open Studios for its accomplishments and its commitment to providing an unsurpassed cultural program to Coloradans. I wish its staff and Board continued creativity and success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL
GEORGE DENNIS SHULL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Brigadier General Dennis Shull will be relinquishing the post of Adjutant General of Missouri.

Brig. Gen. Shull began his military career more than 32 years ago as an enlisted military policeman. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant of artillery in 1975 by the Missouri National Guard Officer Candidate School. He held multiple battery, battalion, brigade, and state level staff positions and has

held command leadership positions of increasing responsibility from squad leader to the commander of 135th Field Artillery Brigade. Also, he was the Chief of Staff of the Missouri Army National Guard from February 1999 to September 2001.

As the Adjutant General of Missouri, Brig. Gen. Shull was responsible to the Governor for the command and control of almost 11,000 Missouri Army and Air National Guard personnel. In addition, he was responsible to the Governor for the State Emergency Management Agency and the Civil Air Patrol.

Throughout his career, Brig. Gen. Shull has received many awards and honors, which include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and many more.

Brig. Gen. Shull will continue to serve our Nation; he has volunteered for a one year tour of active duty in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues in the House will join me in wishing Brigadier General Dennis Shull all the best in the days to come. We thank him for his continued service to our Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, a strong domestic manufacturing base is vital to our country's national defense and economic security. Because of massive global competition, and costs that manufacturers cannot directly control, manufacturing in the United States is under great stress. In order to improve the economic environment in America for manufacturers, we have to address the issues that make our companies less globally competitive. These issues include lawsuit abuse, rising health care costs, energy policy, tax reform, and fighting against criminal counterfeiters. But in order to provide an environment where our manufacturers can effectively compete in the global market, we must address the distortions in the U.S. market for steel. Today I am introducing a resolution that seeks to address unnecessary distortion.

There are currently 188 antidumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) orders in place on various types of steel, which is well over half of all AD/CVD orders in existence. Many of them have been in place since the early 1990s. Some still serve a purpose, others do not. The ones that don't are distorting the U.S. market for steel and unnecessarily damaging steel consuming companies in the form of decreased availability, reduced quality, delayed deliveries, and higher prices. In fact, U.S. companies suffer from artificially high steel prices, higher than anywhere else in the world, making them globally less competitive. For example, the January 2005 price of hot-rolled steel in the United States was \$695/ton, on the world spot market \$575/ton, and in China \$510/ton. Five auto parts companies have recently filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, citing

artificially high prices for steel as a significant reason.

The Department of Commerce (DoC) and International Trade Commission (ITC) are required by law to conduct 5-year "sunset reviews" of anti-dumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) orders to determine whether to terminate, suspend, or continue the duties beyond the 5 years they have already been in place. In particular, on March 2, 2005 the ITC will conduct a sunset review hearing on hot-rolled steel products from Brazil, Japan, and Russia (Invs. 701-TA-384 and 731-TA-806-808 (Review)). And on April 26, 2005 the ITC will conduct a sunset review hearing on stainless steel sheet and strip from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom (Invs. 701-TA-380-382 and 731-TA-797-804 (Review)). Today I am introducing a resolution that urges the DoC and ITC to consider, and report on, the impact of the AD/CVD orders on domestic steel-consuming companies and the overall economy when conducting sunset reviews of duties on steel products.

The DoC and ITC have the discretion to take into account the impact of these duties on steel consumers, and they should. But traditionally they have not. If this continues, economic decisions will be made without seeing the full effects of those decisions. This is not wise, and it's not fair. Furthermore, the damage unnecessary duties do to steel consumers causes the customer base for domestic steel producers to shrink, ultimately harming the steel industry. Sound economic policy cannot be made in a vacuum. When economic policy decisions are made, the full effects of those decisions should be taken into consideration.

I support both a strong domestic steel industry and a strong domestic manufacturing base because they are vital to our national defense and economic security. Removing some specific duties will not harm domestic steel producers, who are doing quite well. In fact, domestic steel producers noted record earnings in 2004 (including increases as high as 45 percent over 2003) and analysts predict a strong 2005 for the industry. If the AD/CVD duties for specific types of steel were removed, market conditions would become less distorted and steel producers may see some extremely high prices they charge now drop to just very high. This will not cause material injury to steel producers, and in fact could provide some much-needed relief for their customer base.

This resolution does nothing to change trade law. It simply calls for sound policy and fundamental fairness. The DoC and ITC already have the authority to look at the full picture during sunset reviews of duties on steel products. This resolution simply calls on them to do just that. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

IN HONOR OF MISS ASHLEIGH
BRIANNA OLIVER

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of a